

From: Ed Schlunder
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 6:27am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I think the proposed settlement is a bad idea.

Microsoft uses many exclusionary licensing practices, many of which are not mentioned in the proposed final judgement. For example, Microsoft discriminates against ISVs who ship Open Source applications. Here is a quote directly from one of their EULAs:

"... you shall not distribute the REDISTRIBUTABLE COMPONENT in conjunction with any Publicly Available Software. "Publicly Available Software" means each of (i) any software that contains, or is derived in any manner (in whole or in part) from, any software that is distributed as free software, open source software (e.g. Linux) or similar licensing or distribution models ..."

Microsoft's only serious, but weak, competitor at the moment is Open Source software. From the EULA above, Microsoft is BLATENTLY excluding Open Source software from participation in their markets. You must not let them get away with this kind of behavior!

Ed Schlunder <eschlund@ajusd.org>

'One Microsoft Way' is unfortunately more than just an address.